VOL 6. #1

Chicago Coin Club Bulletin

March 1941

Chicago Coin Club
BULLETIN

Volume VI MARCH 1941 No. 1

Special Notice

The 265th Meeting

will be held on

Tuesday, March 4, 1941

8 P.M.

in our new meeting room on the

Eighth Floor

Fine Arts Building

410 S. Michigan Avenue

Please take note that the March Meeting will be held on the first Tuesday of the month instead of the usual first Wednesday. After this meeting the regular time will again be used.

Bring along an exhibit, whether it be but one piece or an entire collection.

And remember, refreshments will be served at this meeting.

CHICAGO COIN CLUB

INCORPORATED

Organized January 19, 1919

Meets the first Wednesday of each month at 410 S. Michigan Ave., 8th floor.

OFFICERS

EDMUND E. LAMB.....President
PAUL PENNINGTON.....1st Vice-President
MRS. M. H. JACKSON.....2nd Vice-President
I. T. KOPICKI.....Sec'y-Treasurer
2114 S. St. Louis Avenue
R. L. McBRIEN.....Director
EARL F. BARGER .....Director
CHARLES E. GREEN .....Director

STANDING COMMITTEES

Attendance and Registration
JOSEPH UNSEITIG, JR.

Librarian
WILLIAM EVANS

Sergeants-at-Arms
C. SAM CARLSON AND STANLEY DROP

Membership
ERNEST JONAS — C. SAM CARLSON
FRED A. CLARKE

Finance
EARL F. BARGER — G. W. P. CLEARY
NORTON F. STONE

Publicity
R. McP. CABEEN — J. HENRI RIPSTRA

Auction
WILLIAM EVANS — CLIFFORD LINDALL
R. WYLIE SMITH

Exhibits
HAROLD R. KLEIN

Entertainment
HARRY BOOSEL — LEE F. HEWITT
M. VERNON SHELDON

Grievance
ROBERT L. McBRIEN — WILLIAM EVANS
J. HENRI RIPSTRA

Ladies' Activities
Mrs. M. H. Jackson — Mrs. J. H. Ripstra
Mrs. R. L. McBrien — Mrs. Wm. G. Rayson
Mrs. George Brown — Mrs. I. T. Kopicki
Mrs. Chas. E. Green — Mrs. A. S. Boyer
Mrs. R. E. Davis — Mrs. J. E. Miller
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Bulletin and Publication
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M. V. SHELDON — DR. JOSEPH P. REICH
R. WYLIE SMITH — CLIFFORD LINDALL
WILLIAM EVANS

Secretary's Report

Address Changes

Leif Ronning, from 321 So. Clark St. to 331 S. Dearborn St.

Albert Madlener, from Room 1221, 38 S. Dearborn to Room 1522, 38 South Dearborn Street.

Lyle Blood, from 2160 West 111th St. to 2336 West 112th St.

Application Pending

A. E. Beebe, 6319 Kenwood Avenue.

Otto Schubert, 4933 Magnolia Ave.

Frank C. Wilson, 751 N. Dearborn St.

* * *

Procure our new President's autograph by paying up your 1941 membership dues.

Everybody wear your membership badge at the next meeting.

Remember that we meet on Tuesday, March 4th, at the Fine Arts Building, 410 S. Michigan Ave. Let's have a record attendance at our new meeting place.

The old reliable DoNuts and Coffee will be served at this meeting, — should taste like old times.

I. T. KOPICKI, Secretary.

Dr. Luttenberger Passes Away

We regret to announce the death of Dr. J. G. M. Luttenberger, who passed away January 7, 1941, in his 77th year.

Dr. Luttenberger was Charter Member No. 29 of the Chicago Coin Club, and although he had not been active in the affairs of the club during the last few years, his passing will be keenly felt by the older members who were more intimately acquainted with him. His kindly smile, his gentle grace and quiet word will remain a pleasant memory to his many friends.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Chicago Coin Club—the best, not because it is the biggest, but because it has carried out through its members the object for which it was created:

1.—To study and foster research in numismatics.
2.—To promote activities incident to the collecting of coins, medals, paper money, etc.
3.—To foster good-will and fellowship in our regular meetings.
4.—To publish and encourage Numismatic literature.
5.—To maintain a Numismatic Library.

In a careful analysis of these objectives will be found the secret of that success which makes "our club" the envy of all.

From a small and intimate beginning, we have grown to maturity. In that process, we have lost none of the close contact which makes for friendly help—one to another.

In moving to our new quarters in the Fine Arts Building, we begin the pleasant approach to our Silver Anniversary. We are confident that we can count on the same co-operation which has been extended to our past presidents from 1919 to 1940.

It is in that spirit of helpfulness and co-operation that your new officers ask only that each of us continue the good work—to foster research in his particular specialty—to encourage others to enjoy our hobby, and above all to plant and nourish good will and fellowship among us.

—EDMUND E. LAMB,
President.

1940 PROOF COINAGE

The folowing proof coins were struck at Philadelphia in 1940:

Half dollars	11,279
Quarter dollars	11,246
Dimes	11,827
Nickels	14,158
Cents	15,872

CANADIAN COLLECTORS HAVE THEIR TROUBLES

Fred Broom, of Lindsay, Ont., who is personally known to a number of our Club's members, wrote the following letter to Lee Hewitt, Editor of the Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine, telling of the troubles that Canadian collectors are encountering nowadays:

"Yes, I guess there must be something amiss with our postal authorities at the border, as my Numismatist was 12 days late, too.

"I got some bad information today from our local Custom Officials.

"Commencing at once,—All American coins bought in United States by collectors in Canada will be taxed 11%. This means that if I buy from the Treasury Dept. at Washington, say, for arguments sake, 2 of each, dollars and half dollars, total value: $3.00. The tax would be 33 cents. Add this to the following expenses: postage 12 cents, 11% premium on the money order, and actual cost of money order and stamp of 15c. All these extras would amount to 93c. So $3.00 worth of coins would cost me $3.93.

"This will have a tendency to limit the purchase of U.S. coins by the Canadian collector. This tax does not apply to British and Colonial coins purchased in the U.S.A."

Latin-American Money

Germany does not have any monoply on the scheme of having many different kinds of money. A glance thru a table of recent Latin-America exchange reveals that the country of Chile has six different kinds of Pesos: Official, Export Draft, Curb Market, Free, Gold Exchange, Mining Dollar. The following Latin-American countries have from 2 to 4 kinds of money: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Paraguay and Venezuela.

The Mexican Cinco Centavo Piece

BY ROBERT C. CAHALL

One of the most interesting coins in present day circulation is the Mexican nickel or more properly the cinco centavos piece. The coin while of recent mintage and of base metal is steeped in the lore and tradition of the Aztecs, who historians tell us were the fathers of the Mexican Nation. Both the reverse and obverse of this coin are inscribed with the symbols of this ancient civilization.

On the face of the coin is the coat of arms of the country. This emblem dates back to 1325 when 109 years before in the year 1216 the Aztecs having been conquered by the Colhuas were reduced to slavery, and their existence as a nation seemed compromised for all times. For their astuteness and valor shown while fighting for their masters they were given their freedom. Happy over the recovery of their liberty they began their peregrinations and settled near lakes Texcoco, Xochimilco, Chalco, and Xaltocan. On their arrival at the lakes they saw growing on a rock in the center of the lake a cactus, and on the cactus an eagle perched holding in his beak a snake. It was here that they formed a city which they first named Tenochtitlan meaning stone and cactus. Later it was named Mexico. An eagle perched on a cactus holding a serpent in his beak is the coat of arms of the present Mexican Nation.

This same coat of arms in its entirety is set in the center of the coin. In a half circle around the top is ESTADOS UNIDOS MEXICANOS or translated—United States of Mexico. Completing the circle at the bottom are the crossed leaves of a plant. There is a scalloped border just within the edge of the coin.

On the reverse of the coin is a small inner circle in which is a large Arabic 5. At the top of the five is the date and between the five and the date is the mint mark. Around the bottom is the word centavos.

The remaining subject matter on the back of the coin is a rather poor copy of the inscription of the original calendar stone. This gigantic block of carved stone bears the same significance to the historical development of the Americas as that baked clay tablet which enabled archaeologists to translate the cuneiform writing which opened the dark past of the Egyptians. This Aztec calendar stone has proven to be as accurate a means of computing time as any present method. This stone is reproduced on almost all coins, jewelry, leather carving and souvenirs manufactured for the tourist in Mexico.

The physical aspects of the coin differs little from that of our nickels. They are a little thinner, weigh less, and are about one thirty-second of an inch less in diameter, but are vastly more interesting.

Club Notes

The Chicago Coin Club will meet at its new quarters, in the Fine Arts Building, 410 South Michigan Avenue, eighth floor, on Tuesday, March 4. Note the date, **Tuesday, March 4.**

The new quarters will not be available on Wednesday, our regular meeting night, so, for this initial meeting the date has been advanced one day.

—

A delegation from Milwaukee, attended the February meeting of the Chicago Coin Club, on behalf of the annual Convention of the Central States Numismatic Society, which is

to be held in Milwaukee, Wis., April 26 and 27, 1941. The visitors were, Mr. H. L. Polzer, President of the C.S.N.S.; Mr. Robert Meder, Secretary; Mr. L. W. Culver, Chairman of Convention Arrangements; Mr. Gerber of the Milwaukee Numismatic Society, and Mr. John R. Stewart, Past President of the Milwaukee Numismatic Society.

In addressing the Chicago Coin Club, Mr. Culver expressed the wish for the full co-operation of the Chicago Coin Club, and hoped that the Chicago Coin Club would be represented at the Convention with a good majority and particularly requesting a good show of exhibits.

A good time is assured.

Incidentally, our own Earl F. Barger, who is a member of the board of the C.S.N.S., will take your case reservation for exhibit space at the Milwaukee Convention. If you intend to exhibit give your name to Mr. Barger at the earliest opportunity.

—

A few months ago Mr. Norton F. Stone gave an extemporaneous talk on old Chicago Banks and their former locations. This subject was received by the Club members with considerable interest, and as we mixed among them noticing their reactions, many favorable comments were overheard. I have asked Mr. Stone for a more detailed story of this interesting topic. Old landmarks of Chicago are rapidly passing away and the early Chicago banking houses played an important part in the building of the city.

Mr. Stone's fifty years of activity in banking circles will give us much authentic history, which we intend placing on record in an early issue of the Bulletin.

—

Our coin auction last month was just average. In material, results and (entertainment). We would like to call to the attention of those intending to put up material for auction, the fact that it should reach Mr. Evans at least 15 or 20 days prior to the auction, and here is an honest and authentic tip: high class material will always bring a quick and high price, with plenty of responsive bidders.

—

Dan R. Adan and Walter H. White have answered the call to military service for Uncle Sam.

Plans That Miscarried

The February issue of the Numismatist mentioned a news report from Cairo, which stated that British troops had seized large quantities of Italian bank notes upon the evacuation of Sidi Barrani. Instructions were found with the bank notes, that they were to be placed in circulation when the Italians had occupied Alexandria.

This recalls to our mind the fact that at the beginning of the 19th century, Napoleon Bonaparte made preparations to invade England, and was so confident of success, that he caused a medal to be struck bearing the inscription, "Descent upon England", "Struck at London, 1804." But, Napoleon's defeat at Trafalgar snuffed out his projected invasion, and to quote Robert Burns, "The best laid schemes o' mice an' men, gang aft agley." Anyhow, the afore mentioned bank notes will be of numismatic value.

Frozen Assets

A Dallas, Texas citizen hid his money in the refrigerator, but along came a thief, who knew his way around, and the treasure of 275 Liberty head nickels became liquid.

FROM THE NEWS—

From Paris, via Berlin, came the news that the "sou", the lowest coin in the French monetary system, would be withdrawn from circulation beginning the new year. No explanation was given for this action, but the announcement was made by Finance Minister, Marcel Bouthiller, and is no doubt authentic.

Vichy, France.—It is reported that new French coins of 5, 10, and 20 francs in value, bearing the likeness of Chief of State Petain, have been authorized.

* * *

Tangier, Morocco. — Six French sailors were arrested in French Morocco on charges of stealing several million francs worth of gold pieces from the reserves of the Bank of France. The money had been loaded aboard a ship at Brest, while the Germans were shelling the city last June. A sack, containing 10,000 gold pieces, was missing when the cargo was unloaded at Dakar.

* * *

Smyrna, Turkey.—A hoard of coins was discovered recently by a Turkish workman who was digging on the grounds of an old church at Bayindir, one of the ancient quarters of Smyrna. The hoard which consisted mostly of gold sovereigns of Queen Victoria, also included a number of platinum and gold ingots. They were covered by a marble slab under a ruined wall of the church.

What the Sands May Reveal

We hear a lot about Africa these days. History is being made and perhaps repeated. Modern maps locate on the hump of coast of Northern Africa, the place called Barca. Its earliest name was the ancient Kingdom of Cyrenaica, and its capital, the beautiful city of Cyrene. The ancient Greeks established a great civilization there with a circulated coinage about 500 years before the Christian era.

The coins of old Cyrene bear on one side the design of a strange and curious plant called silphium. This herb was extensively cultivated in the region, and was believed to fatten cattle and to make their flesh tender. It was also used for certain medical purposes. Silphium was Cyrene's money crop and the markets of Rome it sold for its weight in silver.

Present bombing activities in this locality, might easily bring to light some of these ancient coins of old Cyrene, and might also disclose, from the sand covered ruins, facts concerning the lost army of Cambyses, the Persian King. In 525 B.C. he sent an army of 50,000 chosen men to seize the country and destroy the Temple of Ammon. This army disappeared in the Libyan Desert as though the sands had opened up and swallowed them, and no trace of the men, their armor or equipment has ever been found.

Gold versus Arthritis

Dr. A. Clayton McCarty of Louisville, Ky., declares that gold has been used for centuries in the treatment of arthritis and numerous other disorders. At the opening session of the Southern Medical Association's annual meeting, the use of a small fraction of the nation's gold was urged for the relief of arthritis sufferers.

The Architrave of the Chase National Bank

No doubt some of you have seen the main entrance doorway of the Chase National Bank Building in New York City. There is no other building entrance like it in the world, for around its marble architrave is portrayed the coins of the old and new worlds; ancient, medieval and

modern coins, which give to all who care to stop and look, the history of the world's coinage from 550 B.C. to the present period. Large reproductions cut into the stone masonry, that will withstand the action of the elements, and when in the course of time and events, the present building shall have served its purpose, curio seekers and numismatists will scramble for some part of the reproductions as souvenirs.

The coins reproduced in stone, to form the decorative scheme of the architrave, were selected by the American Numismatic Society, and range from the earliest known Greek coins to our United States Peace Dollar of 1927, the year the building was erected. There are twenty-three reproductions in all, of which we mention a few: Stater of Metapontum, 550 B.C., stater of Tarentum, 33 B.C.; Shekel of Israel, 137 B.C.; Aureus of Augustus, 27 B.C.; Sestertius of Antonius Pius, 138 A.D.; Testone of Milan, 1468; Pine Tree Shilling of Massachusetts, 1652; Sovereign of Queen Elizabeth of England, 1558; Joachimthaler of Bohemia, 1562; New York Excelsior cent, 1787; Decadrachm of Syracuse, 400 B.C., and many others.

On display with the money collection of the Bank is a miniature of the doorway and the actual coins which served as models for the stone reproductions.

NUMISMATIC BRIEFS

Clark, Gruber and Company of Denver, who coined gold from the Colorado mines, produced more than $500,000 worth in 1860 and 1861.

British Civilian V.C.

The "George Cross", recently created by King George VI of Great Britain, as an award for civilian bravery, ranks in merit with the "Victoria Cross" for gallantry. The Victoria Cross was instituted in 1856.

Counterfeits

At the New York World's Fair, where approximately 68 million dollars were spent, only $175 of counterfeit bills and $587.65 of counterfeit coins were found.

At the San Francisco Fair, where visitors spent over 9 million dollars, the counterfeit money found totaled only $20 in bills and $40.20 in coins.

British Coins Defaced

Imagine the surprise of the British public, when they discovered that upon a number of English pennies the Swastika was stamped into the shield of Britannia, and that Nazi slogans were written on banknotes. Fifth Columnists were blamed for defacing the metallic and paper currency.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

From a recent short story in a national weekly, we quote: "She was as beautiful as a figure of a goddess on an ancient Greek coin." (What a gal.)

* * *

The quiz minded child accosted its parents with: "I'm going to have a nickel, true or false?"

* * *

From a Denver paper.—His first venture into the antique field was in Asheville, N.C. There he met his wife.

* * *

Customer: I don't want to buy your crackers, they tell me the mice are always running over them.

Grocer: That ain't so—why the cat sleeps in the barrel every night.

* * *

Believe It or Not Robert Ripley recently stated that a 1913 Liberty Head Nickel was worth $1500. Well, a coin is worth whatever it can be sold for and perhaps Mr. Ripley has a buyer.

A Franklin Dime Proposed

A movement is underway to induce the Treasury Department to change the design of the dime from the present Mercury type to a design featuring Benjamin Franklin.

The twenty-five year period will expire this year and it wouldn't be necessary to obtain an act of Congress in order to make the change. An order from the Treasury department being all that's necessary.

There has been some criticsm of the reverse design of the present dime inasmuch as the fasces shown are used as a party symbol of Italian Facists. Of course, our dime was adopted years before the Facist of Italy came into power. Be that as it may, this argument is being used by the sponsors of the Franklin dime to press their demands.

A change of design is always welcomed by numismatists, if for no reason a demand is created for the discontinued type. In fact it is said that the discontinuance of the old large cent in 1857 was the real starter of coin collecting in this country.

The founder of Rothschild's (famous banking family), Amschel Moses Rothschild, kept a coin store at 152 Judengasse—Jewish quarter— Frankfort-on-Main. Before this shop was displayed a red shield (hence the name Rothschild). Amschel dealt also in curiosities, art goods and old gold and silver. His son, Mayer Amschel, was born in 1743 and died in 1812; he, like his father, continued the coin business. In the course of his coin business he met a collector who was court banker to the Landgrave of Hesse. This banker was so impressed by Mayer's business ability that he loaned him money for investment, and it was in this way that the great banking firm of Rothschild was established.

—Elder's Monthly, 1907

A New Mint

While collectors may have a new dime to look forward to, what seems more certain at the moment is an additional mint-mark. The Treasury department is preparing to establish another branch mint somewhere in the Mid-west and possibly at Anderson, Indiana, which would give us an "A" mint mark. The necessary legislation is pending in Congress.

The mints broke all records for total coinage during the calendar year 1940, however, we note that they still had time to coin a few million pieces for foreign governments, and during January of this year coins were struck at Philadelphia for the Dominican Republic and Netherlands East Indies. At San Francisco Mint coins were struck for the government of Indo-China. The total coinage for other countries for the month being in excess of ten million pieces.

1941 Proofs

Yes, all denominations from the cent to the half dollar have been coined at Philadelphia this year so 1941 proof sets should be available.

Edward T. Newell Dies

Last month Edward T. Newell, the president of the American Numismatic Society, passed away. Mr. Newell was one of the world's outstanding authorities on ancient coins.

During the 1880's coinage blanks were furnished the U.S. mints by a Joseph Wharton.

It is reported that the government is considering a proposal to print fractional currency to facilitate the mailing of small sums of money.

A gentlemen in Texas reports that he has found an 1885 Indian cent with a milled edge.

VOL 6 #

Chicago Coin Club Bulletin

June 1941

Chicago Coin Club
BULLETIN

Volume VI JUNE 1941 No. 2

Meeting Notice

266th Meeting will be held

Wednesday, June 4, 1941

8 P.M.

Eighth Floor

Fine Arts Building

410 S. Michigan Avenue

We will be privileged to hear a first hand account of numismatic activities in war-torn Europe. The speaker will be our own member, Dr. A. M. Rackus, who until very recently was the curator of the National Museum of Lithuania. Dr. Rackus remained in that country for three months after the Russian occupation and his account of the transformation of the Republic of Lithuania into a part of Soviet Russia will be a treat that every member should avail himself to.

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WILLIAM EVANS

Secretary's Report

Applications accepted since the last publication

A. E. Beebe, 6319 Kenwood Ave.
Otto Schubert, 4933 Magnolia Ave.
Frank C. Wilson, 751 N. Dearborn St.

Application Pending

Thomas F. Robinson,
5716 S. Seeley Ave.

Changes of Address

Joseph Stefanko,
from 836 E. 64th Pl.
to 7724 Natchez Ave., R.D. 1,
Oaklawn, Ill.

Wm. Owesen,
from 6146 S. Dorchester Ave.,
to 6151 S. Dorchester Ave.

* * *

The month of May is moving day and we have on hand several meeting notices from last month which were returned due to incorrect addresses.

The month of May was a record exhibit night,—14 members exhibited collections. Let's see if we can beat this record at the coming meeting. You don't have to bring rarities to exhibit, all numismatic material makes a good exhibit. Bring it out.

Why not have your collector friend fill out an application in your Club? Dues are $1.50 for the balance of the year.

* * *

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Anton Budivitis, who passed away the early part of April, following a short illness. Mr. Budvitis became a member of the Chicago Coin Club, March 2, 1927. The officers and members extend their sympathy to his family and friends.

I. T. KOPICKI, Sec'y.

At the June 1, 1927 meeting the late Wm. F. Dunham told the story of his purchase of the famous 1822 half eagle.

ABOUT HERALDRY

BY JOSEPH P. REICH

I believe that many Americans look a little pitifully at a science such as heraldry because they consider it idle play or, worse than this, a means of establishing and deepening the gap between the different classes of a nation. On the other hand, there seems to be a great interest for these vanities of the Old World; for you need only take a short walk through the streets of an American town to see escutcheons and coat-of-arms at the walls of public buildings, hotels, etc. In fact, it would be quite wrong to consider heraldry only a childish pastime of idle people and a means of flattering the vanity of men and women whose only merit is their high birth.

No doubt such a factor can be found in it, especially since heraldry was degenerating in the course of the centuries, when nobility and arms could be bought, and when commoners believed to become superior to their equals by ordering a coat-of-arms and having it painted on their car and engraved in the buttons of their servants' coats. But it was not always so. It is not paradox when an Englishman once said, "the history of arms is the whole history of our country."

The history of heraldry is comparatively young, at least much younger than many fanciful scientists and pseudo-scientists of a former time believed. Antiquity did not know coats-of-arms. There was what I will call pre-heraldic devices, figures and pictures distinguishing communities and persons. Many Greek cities show on their coins typical images, in general symbols which were taken from mythology, the produce of the country, etc., and were probably used to serve the trade by showing even the illiterate people with whose coins they had to do. Another less peaceful use of such pre-heraldic devices was the adorning of helmets and ensigns with certain figures which could distinctly be seen and recognized in the tumult of the battlefield and made the warriors rally around their leader or standard-bearer. Especially in the Roman army each unit had its own sign, a boar, a horse, a dragon; later the sign of a maniple became a hand, which is a precursor of the so-called allusive arms, since manipulus means "a handful". But it was one sign that became the symbol of the Roman Empire and gradually formed one of the most powerful bridges to modern heraldry, i.e., the eagle. It was adopted as emblem by all the Empires which considered themselves successors of the Roman Empire, namely the old German Empire and its successor Austria, Russia, the French Empire of Napoleon, and the new German Empire of 1871.

I have gone ahead of time, since there was a long way from the use of symbols in antiquity to the starting of medieval heraldry. Of course, the old custom of showing emblems never ceased among warriors; these emblems were in the main traditional for whole nations and tribes. So the Anglosaxons carried a dragon, the Westfalians a horse, the Danes a raven. One of the most important signs throughout Christendom was the cross; another religious symbol was the so-called monogram of Christ, which was shown in the labarum, the standard of the Roman Empire since Constantine the Great.

While most of these signs were variable for a long time, they gradually became fixed and were transferred to other parts of the armor, the

coat and especially the shield. They became arms instead of changeable signs. It is interesting that Eastern influences have had a great effect on Western heraldry. The acquaintance with the ornamental achievements of the Orient as was at a high scale brought about during the crusades, gave the heraldic artists much valuable inspiration. It is not surprising that the Romanic nations which came in touch with the Orient first, adopted the Oriental customs earlier than the other nations. Thus heraldry developed first in France and soon in England while the development in Germany was a little slower. Therefore the French and English had already introduced fixed rules of heraldry while it was still in full development in Germany. In spite of these regional differences, certain fundamental facts seem common to all the divers nations.

The signs on the standards and armors were in the beginning the signs of a country's army or it units. Later the leaders adopted these arms, which then developed in two different directions. On one side, they remained connected with the legal position and office of the bearer; since this bearer, beside his military rank, usually was the lord of a certain territory and at the same time a high official in the feudal state, his arms remained connected with his territory or with his office. Hence the development of the arms of territories and offices. On the other hand, the military positions and the offices of the great leaders began to become hereditary and the coats-of-arms with them; this is the origin of the family arms. Thus heraldry has spread out of the military sphere into the other realms of life. The choice of devices on the shield was influenced by the relation of the liegelord to his vassals. The latter adopted the devices of their liegelords —so one sees the figure of the eagle on the early coats-of-arms of German princes and liegemen. When, however, these princes became more independent of the imperial sovereignty, they assumed new charges of their own, their vassals did the same, and the number of arms grew incessantly. This variety was further increased by the coloring of the shield in manifold combinations.

The blossom time of heraldry was comparatively short. It comprises in the main the 13th and 14th centuries, the blossom time of knighthood, of tournaments, of minstrels, the time before the invention of gunpowder. By-and-by heraldry degenerated. This had several causes, the most important of which was the degeneration of nobility itself. It was not unjustified that people who had deserved well of their country or ruler and were therefore promoted to a higher rank or outstanding office, desired to acquire a coat-of-arms like their peers of older lineage. However, this was not enough. Bearing heraldic arms became a satisfaction for the vanity of upstarts, who had no other merit than their fortunes. It even became an unpleasant custom to buy the permission of bearing arms. It was so at least in Germany where granting such permissions became an important source of income for the always needy Imperial Court. Parallel with the grant of arms went the reception of commoners into the rank of nobility. The little words "von" in Germany and "de" in France, raised their owners, at least in their own opinion, far above the ordinary commoners to whom they or their parents had belonged not long ago. On the other hand, aristocrats who had committed some crime, would be deprived of their rank and made commoners, which was always a source of resentment for the more independent among the latter. During the revolution of 1848 this led to an amusing episode;

in the first German Parliament in Frankfort on Main a democratic member rose during a debate about nobility and required that from now on every commoner who committed a crime should be made an aristocrat.

After dwelling on the history of heraldry for rather a long time, I wish to give a short description of a coat-of-arms. When you look at it, it seems rather complicated, however, it is not hard to distinguish between the important parts and the accessories. The most important part is, of course, the shield, since it was mainly the shield on which the warrior showed his colors and devices. During the fight he held it straight in front of himself so that his enemy saw it in full front view; at other times it hung down from his left arm slightly tilted, so that one saw it in profile. These are the two views in which the shield appears in the coats-of-arms.

The shape of the shield changed according to the different epochs. While the long Norman shield was in use in the 12th and the first half of the 13th centuries, the shield became smaller and assumed the shape of a triangle with almost equal sides in the second half of the 13th century; this shape proved to be particularly fit for bearing the heraldic devices. In later centuries the shield of the coats-of-arms assumed fancy shapes, which had nothing to do with the original purpose of a shield, i.e. to protect the warrior in the battle and in the tournament.

What made the shield of the knight recognizable from a great distance was its color, and so the color of the ground of the shield plays a very important role. There are four main colors, red, blue, green, and black, and two metals, gold and silver. A few other colors, brown and purple, the latter never on the shield itself, are of less importance. One heraldic rule is, "never put color on color or metal on metal." In heraldic language colors and metals are frequently described with foreign names, which in general come from the French, sometimes, however,, found their way into this language from the Orient. A different dignity of the divers colors has often been pretended, however, this belongs into the realm of fables, which abound in older heraldry; only purtle was reserved for royal and imperial arms. A very simple, but ingenious method for the graphic representation of the colors was invented in the 17th century.

The most interesting and significant part of the shield is the figures or so-called charges on its surface. They are so manifold that I can only say a few words about the subject. One distinguishes the so-called "honorary ordinaries" and the "common charges." The former are apparently the oldest in heraldry; they are traced back, (I don't know whether right or wrong) to the 10th century. They are very simple, consisting in pales, bars, angles, etc. I know by experience that old noble families are particularly proud of their coats-of-arms when these are as little adorned by figures as possible, which agrees very well with the idea of honorable ordinaries. One of them, the cross, is one of the oldest devices in Christian countries and gained its greatest importance in the tmes of the crusades. It is supposed to exist in 385 different shapes. The common charges may practically represent every and any object on earth, in the water, and in the air, animate and inanimate. Among the animals the noblest are the eagle and the lion. Heraldic objects are not in many cases represented in their natural shapes, but more or less stylistic. Their is a tale about the English country herald-painter who was shown the lions in the Tower of London and indignantly cried, "What!

Tell me that's a lion; why I have painted all sorts of lions these twenty-five years, and for sure I ought to know what a lion is like better than all that."

A specially curious kind of arms is the so-called "canting arms," "armes parlantes," or "allusive arms." In this type of charges or pictures either relate to the character, office, or history of the bearer, or convey a direct pun on his name. A Blackmore, e.g. has three Moor's heads, a Geoffrey de Lucy three luces.

Among the animals one frequently finds real monsters. Part of them such as the unicorn, the dragon, the griffon belong to mythology and need not occupy us here. There are, however, other types of monsters that cannot be explained so easily. I am speaking of the animals with two bodies or heads, the best known of which is the "double eagle" of the Old German Empire, Austria and Russia. Old heraldic scientists have taken much pain to explain these forms historically and politically. The double eagle was supposed to refer to the double rank of the monarch as Roman Emperor and German King. There is, however, another explanation which seems rather satisfactory to me. Even before the crusades Western nations became acquainted with the Orient and its art. Among these, textile art occupied a high rank. Now it is usual in weaving to represent the same object twice, one as the mirror-image of the other. This led to the representation of two lions standing with their backs turned to each other and especially of two eagles looking in different directions. When such images were melted into each other an animal with two heads would be the result. Once I read an amusing anecdote referring to the Austrian double eagle. In the time when Bohemia still belonged to Austria, a Viennese poet had a maid from the backwoods of Bohemia, where she had often seen Austrian money, but never an eagle. One day he wanted to give her pleasure and sent her to the Zoo. She came back deeply impressed with what she had seen there, an eagle with only one head.

In most cases the shield shows more than one charge, acquisition of new territories, marriages, etc. led to assuming new charges in one shield. For this purpose the shield had to be divided or, in heraldic language, quartered. How far this quartering might go is shown by an English shield that is said to have 334 quarterings. An elaborate system determined the respective dignity of the divers quarters. Here it is sufficient to mention that the right side and the upper half of the shield had the preference. One must know tha heraldically right and left are the opposites of what one should expect, since we have to look at the shield with the eyes of its bearer.

I mentioned that the old warriors originally wore their devices on their helmets, accordingly the helmet and the figure crowning it, the so-called crest, are a very important part of the coat-of-arms. The helmet sitting on the shield shows in the course of time all the changes it underwent in life. Besides, there are very fine differentiations between the helmets belonging to the different ranks in society. The metal, the number of the bars, the position—each of these things means something. Their main importance, however, consists in bearing the crest. The crest is a device that was originally worn on the helmet of a military leader in order to make him visible in the battle. Later on it appeared on the helmets of other nations; played a great role in the tournaments, and appeared on the coat-of-arms. In many cases they repeat one of the charges of the shield. Helmets and crests may be

multiplied.

An interesting and sometimes amusing part of the arms are the supporters, figures of human beings, angels or animals, who guard or support the shield, mostly standing on either side. A very common figure is the wild man or savage, scantily clad, but armed with a big club or a whole tree.

Frequently you can see two shields looking at each other. These so-called arms of alliance are in general the arms of husband and wife, that of the husband taking preference, occupying the right side.

In concluding this paper, which is far from exhausting the vast subject of heraldy, I wish to reward my patient readers by adding the poem, "Genealogical Trees" from Gaily the Troubadour by Arthur Guiterman, published and copyrighted by E. P. Dutton & Co., Inc., New York:

Undoubtedly you'll never see
A poem like a family tree,

A tree that proves beyond demur
How eminent one's fathers were;

A tree whose branches boast the charms
Of mottoes, crests and coats-of-arms

In Azure, Argent, Vert and Gules,
Designed by strict heraldic rules;

A tree, the intimate Who's Who
Of gentlefolk whose blood is blue,

A lofty, nobly spreading tree
Of lineage and pedigree,

Where he that looks too closely for
A primitive progenitor

May find him hanging, stark and grim,
Suspended from a lower limb.

Mrs. Davis Returns To The City

Mrs. R. E. Davis has returned to Chicago after spending several months on the west coast. Her many friends will be hoping to see her at the Club again.

HENRI RIPSTRA AWARDED GOLD MEDAL AT IOWA MEET

J. Henri Ripstra was awarded a gold medal at the annual convention of the Iowa Numismatic Society at Davenport on May 18th. The medal was awarded to Henri in recognition of his efforts on behalf of the Ass'n.

We hope that he will exhibit the piece at the next Club meeting.

Several of our members attended the Iowa meeting. The Chicagoans present were: Mr. and Mrs. Ripstra, Mr. and Mrs. Hewitt, Merril Sheldon, Harry Boosel, Mike Powills, Frank Smith, as well as other members from outside Chicago.

Joseph Stack of New York was the principal speaker at the banquet.

THE C.S.N.S. CONVENTION

The Central States Numismatic Society held its third annual convention in Milwaukee, Wis., April 26 and 27, and judging by the gratified expressions of those in attendance it was a great success, in fact quite a number of the 250 members and visitors said that it was one of the best conventions which they had ever attended.

The new officers elected to serve for the coming year were J. Hewitt Judd, Omaha, Neb., President; I. T. Kopicki, Chicago, 1st Vice President; C. T. Shelby, Muncie, Ind., 2nd Vice President; Secretary-Treasurer to be appointed by President Judd.

The new Directors are: V. Leon Belt, Waterloo, Iowa; Earl F. Barger, Chicago; Hubert L. Polzer, Milwaukee; Arthur L. Gray, Saginaw; Arthur B. Kelley, St. Louis; Richard Yeomans, Racine; James Kelly, Dayton; Rual Forsythe, Taylorville, Ill.; Paul Edwards, St. Paul, Minn.

The numismatic exhibits which reached a high point of excellence, showed the whole world on display through its ancient, medieval and modern coins. There were several

cases of United States and foreign patterns that were a numismatic feast, rare private gold coins of the United States filled three cases and United States proof coins were on display in all their beauty and were a joy to behold, while paper currency in all denominations had its share of attention. There were rare and brilliant coins of Sweden, gold and silver hammered coins of Great Britain; also rare ancient coins of Rome and Greece called to our minds the glory that was theirs, while the display of ancient Chinese numismatic items were the finest we have ever seen. There was also a case of the world's smallest gold and silver coins that proved an attraction; all this and more, while one of the outstanding displays was a cabinet of rare numismatic literature of which the owner must have been very proud.

An educational program began with "Information Please", then Mr. Ripstra spoke on the subject of altered dates, die cracks, etc. Mr. Green on the subject of restrikes, then a general discussion concerning counterstamped coins, which was followed by a short talk on Maundy money by Mr. Rayson. Mr. Sheldon gave a screen exhibition, showing coins through his latest lucite impression slides.

The ladies were entertained with bus rides, card games and so forth, and unanimously expressed themselves as having a good time.

There was an auction of over 1300 lots in two periods, which was cried by James Kelly of Dayton, Ohio, and good prices were realized.

The immediate Past President, Mr. Polzer, is to be congratulated on having selected a committee, headed by Mr. Culver as Chairman, which functioned so capably. It was decided to hold the 1942 convention in Des Moines, Iowa, where we hope to again renew old acquaintances.

CLUB NOTES

It was "open house" at the May meeting of the Chicago Coin Club and judging by the attendance, it would not be amiss to make this an annual affair. There were 114 registrations, that is, 85 members and 29 visitors. This was, by quite a margin, the largest attendance of any regular meeting of the club. The display of numismatic material was far above the average; the cases were filled to overflowing and the exhibitors are to be congratulated on the interesting and descriptive talks which they gave concerning their coins. Mr. Sheldon's screen showing of coins by lucite impression slides was a feature of the evening.

Mr. Evans, Chairman of the Auction Committee, again requests that members having material for coming auctions, will please contact him at least 14 days before an auction.

Did you notice that there were five Past Presidents of the Club present at the May meeting? Viz. Alden Scott Boyer, Dr. Al M. Rackus, J. Henri Ripstra, Wm. G. Rayson and Robert L. McBrien.

Our thanks to Mr. Clifford Lindall for his many numismatic news items.

The celebrated numismatic collection, formed by the late William Forrester Dunham of Chicago, has at last been sold by B. Max Mehl. Members of the Chicago Coin Club are particularly interested in this great collection, not only from the fact that it contains the rarest coins of the United States, but for the reason that Mr. Dunham was a charter member of this club and was held in high esteem by its members.

Now the big question is, what did the 1822 half eagle and 1804 dollar bring and who are the buyers?

Chicago Coin Club Bulletin

September 1941

Chicago Coin Club
BULLETIN

Volume VI SEPTEMBER, 1941 No. 3

Meeting Notice

271st Meeting will be held

Wednesday
September 3, 1941
8 P. M.

Eighth Floor
Fine Arts Building
410 S. Michigan Avenue

You are urged to attend and to bring an exhibit

Come and get the news of the A. N. A. Convention

CHICAGO COIN CLUB

INCORPORATED

Organized January 19, 1919

Meets the first Wednesday of each month at 410 S. Michigan Ave., 8th floor.

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Ladies' Activities
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Mrs. R. L. McBrien — Mrs. Wm. G. Rayson
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Secretary's Report

Change of Address

Mrs. Frances Davis
from 150 Duane St.,
Redwood City, Cal.
to 2430 Bowditch St.,
Berkeley, Cal.

* * *

James P. Randall
from 37 W. Van Buren St.,
to 341 S. Dearborn St.

* * *

The September meeting will be the 271st. meeting of the Chicago Coin Club.

The October meeting is set aside as Ladies Night. A large attendance is expected as the ladies have never failed us yet.

* * *

Dr. J. H. Judd, President of the C. S. N. S. has appointed Mrs. Ted Hammer of Burlington, Iowa, as Secretary of the Society.

* * *

Exhibits wanted for the September meeting. There should be at least 25 to 30 exhibits on record for the attendance we have at the meetings. Bring out your collection. We want to see it.

* * *

The Auction Committee wants material for the next sale.

I. T. Kopicki, Sec'y.

* * *

South Dakota's 1940 total of $20,762,760 worth of gold led all states sending gold to the Denver mint, according to the United States Bureau of Mines.

* * *

According to Rand McNally Banker's Monthly, there are 249 banks in the United States that are more than one hundred years old and that fifty of them are in New York State.

The Mysterious Moneyers of Rome and England

by Paul Pennington and Wm. G. Rayson

PART I

The term "moneyer" is used to designate an individual who was charged with the responsibility of striking coins and who placed his symbol, initials or name upon coins.

Although the private or public lives of these mysterious men are perhaps not of very great importance to the study of numismaitcs, our curiosity, at least, is aroused to the extent of wishing to know what they did apart from their connection with the mint.

Symbols, initials or names appear upon Greek, Roman, English and other coins. Those old enough remember the furor which was caused, when the Lincoln cent was first issued, by the initials of the artist placed upon the reverse. In our times we have not been accustomed to the prominent display of anything personal upon a coin; in the past, however, this was not the case.

The primary reason for having a mint official "sign" a coin was probably to prevent him from issuing underweight coins or coins of poor metal by making punishment easy and certain.

The same idea is back of the mint mark and, in a way, the moneyer's marks can perhaps be classed as one form of mint mark. Symbols are found on Greek, Roman and English coins, but no traces of these men will probably ever be found.

With Roman and English coins, using the whole, or nearly the whole name, we expect, and do, find more information, but not to the extent of our expectations.

If you pick up a Roman denarius of the Republic, the chances are that you will find on it the name of a monetary triumvir, or another official who arranged for the striking of coins in carrying out the duties of his office. If you wish to associate this person with some one mentioned in history, you will probably enter a blind alley, except in a very few cases. Following are a few examples of attempts to identify these mysterious men of Rome.

A denarius attributed to about 100 B.C., with the name Q. Fabius Labeo, seemed likely to be an instance in which curiosity would be satisfied, for surely a member of the Fabia gens, made famous by the general Fabius Cunctator, who overcame Hannibal by his dilatory tactics would be easily traced. The "Encyclopedia Brittannica" lists many members of this gens, but no Quintus Fabius Labeo. However, it did refer to Vincent de Vit's "Onomasticon," published in 1859 and later.

This work was found, but the only information on Q. Fabius Labeo was that his coins show the symbol, prow of a ship, in memory of a naval victory of his adoptive father, that he was quaestor urbanus in 196 B.C., praetor in 189 B.C., consul in 183 B.C. and pontifex in 180 B.C. If the coin has been correctly dated, the consul of 183 B.C. is not the monetary triumvir of about 100 B.C. Since recent research has placed the earliest denarius, formerly believed to have been struck in 269 B.C., at about 187 B.C. the chances are that this coin has been placed too early rather than too late.

The repetition of the same name generation after generation leads to confusion and it therefore follows that the date of a coin cannot be

(Continued on page 6)

We regret to announce the death of Mr. John R. Stewart of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, who passed away at his home on Aug. 1. Although having been in ill health for some time, his sudden death was a shock to his many friends. Mr. Stewart was Past President of the Milwaukee Numismatic Society and a member of the Chicago Coin Club. Burial was at Milldale, West Virginia, his former home.

Mr. Stewart is survived by his wife, three sons and three daughters. Members of the Chicago Coin Club extend their sympathy to Mrs. Stewart and her family.

FOREIGN NEWS

Ankara, Turkey—The Turkish official news agency announced that the next issue of banknotes would be printed in Berlin. The previous issue, which had been printed in London, was sunk at Piraeus, Greece, when German stukas bombed a transport during the Balkan blitzkreig.

DAMASCUS GETS GOLD COINS

Bowls filled with British sovereigns appeared in 1940 on the stands of the money changers in Damascus and other towns in Syria. The coins sold for about $9.00 each. It was believed the sovereigns were part of the gold distributed by "Lawrence of Arabia" years ago and were brought out by the 1940 crisis.

* * *

From Bucharest, Rumania, comes a modern version of the "Golden Fleece"—Rumanian customs officials became suspicious of blood on a flock of sheep which some Bulgarian peasants were taking out of Rumania into Dobrigi. Investigation showed that the hides had been cut, gold inserted under the skin and the cuts sewed up. Some of the sheep wore gold bells around their necks and others had gold pieces hidden by the long wool. Truly, gold is where you find it.

THE ALUMINUM DRIVE

The Chicago Commission on National Defense received the unique contribution of Numismatist Jack B. May of 5528 Hyde Park Blvd. The contribution was accompanied by a note that read: "Enclosed please find six German aluminum coins from my collection, which I wish to contribute to the National Aluminum Week Campaign. German money to defeat Germany."

* * *

The British-American Ambulance Corps has placed on sale a bronze St. George "Freedom Luck Piece" about the size of a dollar. It was designed by Mario Korbel, Czecho-Slovakian sculptor. The medal pictures St. George slaying the dragon on the obverse, and the current British slogan "Thumbs Up" on the reverse. The piece sells for $1.00.

The new silver colonial half-rupee of India, bearing the crowned head of George VI. may be had through the dealers. Except for the crowned portrait, both obverse and reverse designs are the same as the last pieces of George V. issued in 1936.

BRIEFS

The "Mint House" in Boston was in existence about thirty-four years; all coins issued from it carried the dates 1652 or 1662.

* * *

Walter Winchell says that "when money talks she doesn't miss a thing."

* * *

Jerry Lester, the clown and coin collector, carries an 1804 penny as a good luck piece.

MINUTES FROM THE PAST

Twenty Years Ago—Sept. 8, 1921. The 31st meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was held at 940 N. Clark St. Mr. Boyer presiding. The attendance was 21. The ladies present were Mrs. Boyer and Mrs. Davis. Mr. Brown read some articles from Mehl's Monthly of 1909. There were exhibits of coins by eight members.

Fifteen Years Ago—Sept. 1, 1926. The 91st meeting of the Club was held at room 1405 Hartford Building, Vice President Josephson presiding. There were 21 members and guests present. Mr. Dunham gave a report of the Washington A. N. A. Convention. Exhibits were made by seven members.

Ten Years Ago — Sept. 2, 1931. The 151st meeting was held at the Atlantic Hotel. Mr. Davis, President. There were 32 members present. Dr. Skeen's application for membership was read and accepted. An interesting talk on counterfeit currency was made by Alden S. Fields. There were six exhibits.

CLUB NOTES

Mrs. R. E. Davis has returned to California. We shall miss her and feel sure she will be back. After being a regular attender for over twenty years, one does not break away from friends easily. We recall a motto on a whitewashed wall of an attic room we occupied in New Orleans over 30 years ago, "Friends are like melons, I'll tell you why; To find one good, you must one hundred try." By the way, Mrs. Davis asked us to tell the Secretary not to forget to mail her the "Bulletin".

* * *

Lee Hewitt was absent from the July meeting of the club. Inasmuch as this was the first meeting he had missed since May, 1932, we feel quite safe in posting this as a record for continuous attendance.

CONCRETE TREASURE

Ben Resenfelt is a cobbler in Chicago, but for a short time he let down on his job of repairing soles for one of concrete cracking. He had 48 pieces of concrete the size of walnuts in which he hoped to find a golden treasure, but what he was through there was nothing but pulverized concrete on the floor of his shop, so Ben went to the police and told this story. "A customer who had his shoes half soled came in with one of these concrete balls, he cracked it open and out popped a $5.00 gold piece. He said he had $1250 worth of them, but he needed money and was afraid to take them to a bank because it is illegal to have gold coins in one's possession. Another stranger with a red mustache came in and offered the customer $760 for his pieces of concrete. "I chipped in with $240 and we bought them" continued Ben. "Then the fellow with the red mustache went across the street to borrow a hammer, the customer went with him and I haven't seen either of them since." So Mr. Rosenfelt went back to his shop, and with each blow of his cobbler's hammer he realized that oft'times there is more honor in the sole of a shoe than in the soul of a man. But he did get his picture in the newspaper and it only cost him $240.

Another Mint on the Horizon

The three mints of San Francisco, Denver and Philadelphia have been working three shifts, seven days a week to meet the growing demand for coins. This demand is attributed to preparedness spending and taxes in addiion to the need for coins for use in juke boxes and vending machines.

A bill has been introduced in Congress for the construction of an additional mint to meet the requiremens.

determined from the name of the moneyer alone. For a discussion of the use of moneyer's names in the dating of coins, see Mattingly's "Roman Coins," page 41.

Another example will make this point clear. A denarius of reduced weight signed "CN DOM" is attributed to Cnaeus Domitius Ahenobarbus about 123 B.C. (Mattingly's "Roman Coins," Plate XVIII, No. 3). The "Onomasticon" mentions a man of this name, consul in 122 B.C., proconsul in 121 B.C. and conqueror of the Arvernines and Allobrogas in 121 B.C. A small symbol, a dog attacking a man, has been interpreted as referring to King Bituitus of the Arvernines who kept huge war dogs. A son, of the same name, was consul in 96 B.C.

Unless the approximate date of the coin is known, it cannot be attributed to the correct individual. Even then, the choice is not easy to make. If this coin was struck about 123 B.C. by the father, the consul of 122 B.C. it seems that the consulship, the highest office of the Roman state and the monetary triumvirate are too close together for probability. If struck about 123 B.C. by the son at about 30 years of age, his age when consul would be about 57 which seems more likely, the symbol then referring to the father. Another possibility is that it was struck by the father when proconsul, not as a monetary triumvir but as imperator of the army fighting the Arvernians. The above do not exhaust the possibilities for there were men of the same name later than the two mentioned.

Mattingly's "Roman Coins," pages 29 and 31, states that the office of monetary triumvir was held by young Senators at the outset of their careers, and apparently not at a younger age than 27, that the office lasted for a year and reelection was probably abnormal. Triumvirs coined separately; all, however, did not coin. In 44 B.C. Caesar increased the moneyers to four, but Augustus reduced the number to three. The first triumvirs were appointed in 289 B.C., the date which is now believed to be that of the first bronze coinage of Rome.

What else can be deduced about these illusive men?

The office was apparently shunned by young men who later became prominent, or those who were to rise to fame were too busy with their careers to accept the office, or if they did, to carry out their duties, else no difficulty would be had in placing them in history. It seems strange that a budding politician would not grasp at every opportunity to keep his name before the public; coinage was one of the few means of the times to do this over a large territory.

From the "Onomasticon" we can see that these men have left some traces of their activities elsewhere than on coinage and that as the correctness of the dating of the coins is more nearly approached, more perhaps can be learned of them.

For example, we find that Cn. Domitius Ahenobarbus, consul for the year 122 B.C. was appointed censor in 115 B.C. with L. Caecilius Metellus and that C. Hosidius Geta was monetary triumvir with Cassius Longinus and L. Roscius Fabatus.

While the sources of many statements are given in the "Onomasticon," many are not. Some of those which are given are works of such pioneer numismatists as Mommsen and Cavedoni whose dating of coins has been used by De Vit for his chronology. For instance, Furius Pupureo is given as a triumvir of about 224 B.C. "as Cavedoni thinks in Ripostigli."

Occasionally we find something that dovetails nicely. A denarius signed L. Philippus, attributed to 56 B.C. shows the head of Ancus Mar-

cius, a legendary king of Rome and founder of the Marcia gens, and the inscription below the aqueduct "AQVA MAR" leaves little doubt that it has been correctly attributed to Lucius Marcius Philippus. The "Encyclopedia Britannica" under "Marcius" does not mention this man but under "Augustus"a man of this name is mentioned who married Augustus' mother in 57 B.C. All this fits together very neatly and leaves little doubt that the moneyer and the step father of Augustus are the same person. Few moneyers seem to have made such a wise marriage!

A denarius of Pompey the Younger, struck before the battle of Munda in Spain, 46-45 B.C., shows the obverse inscription "M POBLICI LEG PR" (Marcus Poblicius Legatus pro Praetore). Information on the title is rather vague, and it is not translated in Mattingly's "Roman Coins," p. 34. The reverse shows the inscription "CN MAGNVS IMP". Marcus took good care to get his name and title, in legible lettering, on the obverse, but Pompey's name (Pompey the Great took the family name Magnus) and title were relegated to the reverse and slovenly cut into the die. This, perhaps, is an amusing case of the personal vainglory of a minor official.

(Th second part of this article will appear in the next issue of the "Bulletin".)

PHONEY COINS AND NOTES

Making fake coins is a small home industry, a part time job for the most part and nobody gets rich at it, yet, there are more coin counterfeiters in the United States than note counterfeiters.

The Secret Service put 418 coin makers in jail last year, compared with 229 convictions of note artists. The public lost $55,666.00 from phoney coins, which was more than halt as much as they lost from bad notes.

Coin counterfeiting isn't diminishing as fast as note counterfeiting. The loss from bogus notes in 1940 was about one-seventh of what it was in 1936, but the loss from fake coins decreased only about one-half in that time.

* * *

Alaska, purchased from Russia in 1867 for $7,200,000 produced $25,-375,000 in gold during 1940. This was more than the amount mined during the gold rush days and set an all time record.

* * *

The following Chicago Coin Club members were in attendance at the A. N. A. Convention at Philadelphia, Pa.: Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Green; Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Lamb, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Hewitt, J. Henri Ripstra, M. V. Sheldon, M. A. Powills, H. Boosel, D. S. Keefer, H. A. Sternberg, M. H. Jackson, C. Lindall, E. Jones, A. Rutz and F. Smith.

* * *

The Chicago Coin Club has grown to a man's sized club in twenty years, but the number of exhibitors is just about the same.

* * *

Vice-President Paul Pennington's article "The Roman Victoriatus" in the Numismatic Scrapbook of August is well worth the reading. It is well written, informative and educational.

* * *

We understand that Mr. and Mrs. George Brown are thinking of leaving Chicago to make their home in California, but we repeat, they will be back.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE A. N. A. CONVENTION

The attendance was 244 members and 137 visitors. The outstanding entertainment feature seems to have been the tour of the Philadelphia Mint.

Mr. D. C. Wismer and Dr. J. M. Henderson were made Honorary Life Members of the Association, and Mr. Frank Duffield was elected to Life membership. The elected officers were: President, J. Douglas Ferguson, Rock Island, Que., Canada; 1st Vice President, Martin F. Kortjohn, New York City; 2nd Vice President, George M. Todd, Atlanta, Ga.; General Secretary, M. Vernon Sheldon, Chicago, Ill.; Treasurer, George H. Blake, Jersey City, N. J.; Librarian, T. R. Hammer, Burlington, Iowa.

Board of Governors: Vernon L. Brown, New York City; J. Henri Ripstra, Chicago, Ill.; Shepard Pond, Winchester, Mass.; Nelson T. Thorson, Omaha, Neb.; V. Leon Belt, Waterloo, Iowa.

* * *

GONE WITH THE WIND

Joe Kirsch of Kankakee, Ill., opened his wallet just as the wind blew past. Fourteen dollars in folding money was whipped out of the purse by the wind and blew away. Yes, it was that same "ill wind" so often mentioned.

* * *

Just save your pennies, the tax collector will take care of your dollars.

* * *

SENTENCED TO MUSEUM

Colchester, England.—Three boys, aged 10, 11 and 12 who stole 50 Roman coins from Colchester Castle Museum, were ordered to spend an hour each on four Saturday afternoons at the museum, by the Chairman of the local juvenile court. The Chairman told them "You will realize you can look at the exhibits, but not take them away."

GOLD NOTES

Out of tin cans buried in back yards, from crevices in old buildings and from other hiding places, there flows a persistent if irregular stream of "goldbacks", possession of which has been illegal since 1933.

Recently $2,500 worth was found in Long Island. Although possession of gold notes is illegal, no bar is put in the way of their redemption. They may be redeemed (at face value only) at any bank, and the bank collects from the Federal Reserve. Thereafter the notes are sent to the treasury at Washington to be cancelled and destroyed. There is about $63,000,000 worth of these notes which have not been turned in and are accordingly classified as "in circulation," although it is certain that large numbers of them have been destroyed or lost by such means as fires and ship sinkings. About $400 worth of the Lindbergh ransom money has never been identified.

(From New York Times Magazine)

A $100,000 BILL GUARDED

It took the United States Secret Service and an armored car to bring in the main exhibit for the State Bankers Association convention held recently at Excelsior Springs, Mo. The exhibition was a $100,000 bill —proving to plain folk that such things exist — and $33,391 in assorted bills.

* * *

The Chesterton Tribune, Ind. says: "George Washington got a good deal of publicity for throwing a dollar across the Delaware River. Not much of a trick compared to throwing seven billion across the Atlantic Ocean."

* * *

Notice in a Scottish Church: Those who prefer to put buttons rather than money in the offertory are asked to put in their own buttons and not those taken from the cushions.

VOL 6 A 4

Chicago Coin Club Bulletin

December 1941

Chicago Coin Club
BULLETIN

Volume VI DECEMBER 1941 No. 4

Meeting Notice

274th Meeting will be held

Wednesday
December 3, 1941
8 P. M.

Eighth Floor
Fine Arts Building
410 S. Michigan Avenue

You are urged to attend and to bring an exhibit

Annual Election of Officers and Directors will be held.

CHICAGO COIN CLUB

INCORPORATED

Organized January 19, 1919

Meets the first Wednesday of each month at 410 S. Michigan Ave., 8th floor.

OFFICERS

EDMUND E. LAMB.....President
PAUL PENNINGTON.....1st Vice-President
MRS. M. H. JACKSON.....2nd Vice-President
I. T. KOPICKI.....Sec'y-Treasurer
2114 S. St. Louis Avenue
R. L. McBRIEN.....Director
EARL F. BARGER .....Director
CHARLES E. GREEN .....Director

STANDING COMMITTEES

Attendance and Registration
JOSEPH UNSEITIG, JR.

Librarian
WILLIAM EVANS

Sergeants-at-Arms
C. SAM CARLSON AND STANLEY DROP

Membership
ERNEST JONAS — C. SAM CARLSON
FRED A. CLARKE

Finance
EARL F. BARGER — G. W. P. CLEARY
NORTON F. STONE

Publicity
R. McP. CABEEN — J. HENRI RIPSTRA

Auction
WILLIAM EVANS — CLIFFORD LINDALL
R. WYLIE SMITH

Exhibits
HAROLD R. KLEIN

Entertainment
HARRY BOOSEL — LEE F. HEWITT
M. VERNON SHELDON

Grievance
ROBERT L. McBRIEN — WILLIAM EVANS
J. HENRI RIPSTRA

Ladies' Activities
Mrs. M. H. Jackson — Mrs. J. H. Ripstra
Mrs. R. L. McBrien — Mrs. Wm. G. Rayson
Mrs. George Brown — Mrs. I. T. Kopicki
Mrs. Chas. E. Green — Mrs. A. S. Boyer
Mrs. R. E. Davis — Mrs. J. E. Miller
Mrs. Lila E. Wirth — Miss Dorothy Gough

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R. WYLIE SMITH — CLIFFORD LINDALL
WILLIAM EVANS

Secretary's Report

New Members Admitted

Edward F. Plaspole,
213 W. 63rd Street,
Chicago

Mrs. Catherine Lamb,
10148 S. Seeley Avenue,
Chicago

Changes of Address

Mr. and Mrs. George F. Brown,
to 1174 N. Los Robles Ave.,
Pasadena, California.

Mr. Charles Vincent,
from 1211 Winnemac Ave.,
to 849 Belle Plaine Ave.,
Chicago.

* * *

We regret to announce the death of Benjamin E. Sincere, who passed away October 5, in Elkhorn, Wisconsin, of injuries suffered in an auto accident October 2.

Mr. Sincere was elected to membership in the Chicago Coin Club, Jan. 1, 1938. He was senior partner in the stock exchange firm of Sincere & Co., and was a well known figure on LaSalle Street. Surviving Mr. Sincere are his widow and daughter, to whom the sympathies of the Club are extended.

* * *

Report of the Nominating Committee:

Acting in accordance with Article 5, Section 4 of the By-Laws of the Chicago Coin Club, the Nominating Committee present the following names in nomination for the various offices of the Club, for the ensuing year of 1942:

For President.....Edmund E. Lamb
For 1st Vice Pres...Paul Pennington
For 2nd Vice Pres...Mrs. Ruth Green
For Sec-Treas. .....Clifford Lindall
For Directors: R. L. McBrien, Earl F. Barger, and Chas. E. Green.

—I. T. KOPICKI, Sec'y.

The Mysterious Moneyers of Rome and England

BY PAUL PENNINGTON AND WM. G. RAYSON

PART II—Continued from the September issue

From the designs and legends on the ancient coins of Rome and Greece, much authentic information has been deduced. Notable events were recorded by their designs, and the name, initial or private mark of the magistrate or moneyer is recognized with a fair degree of certainity; but it is not so with the earliest coins of the ancient Briton, for there is little or no evidence inscribed on them to give the numismatist anything but fragments of information from which he may weave the story of their makers, and it is only through intensive research of supposed contemporary coins that it has been possible to attribute many of them to a particular period.

Sir John Evans, eminent author of "Coins of the Ancient Britons" places the first British mint in Kent, as early as 150 B.C., but although he had access to the ancient British coins in the British Museum, he found no indication of a moneyer's name inscribed on them.

The earliest inscribed coins of Britain are of the ruler COMMIUS; COMMI; or OMMIOS, but again there is no recognized mark on them to give any clue to the moneyer.

Verica or Virica, a son of Commius ruled in the country of Belgae, Regni and Atrebatii about 30 B.C., now known as the counties of Hampshire, Sussex and West Surrey. There is a gold coin, stater size, bearing the obverse inscription "VIRI.COM. F." (Verica, son of Commius) and the reverse "EPPI" (Eppilus). This reverse name was, at one time, accepted as that of a moneyer but has since been rejected on the grounds that Eppilus was the brother of Verica and not likely to be the moneyer for his brother's coins. The writer has never been able to fully abandon the possibility that Eppilus may have been the moneyer, for who would have been better qualified in that capacity than the ruler's brother?

In the year 40 A.D. Cunobelinus, the Cymbeline of Shakespeare, was the ruler of the central district, or the country of the Trinobantes. There are in existence coins inscribed with his name in various forms of abbreviation, on the reverse we find the word, TASCIO; TASC; or TAS. Ruding, in his "Annals of the Coinage of Great Britain" suggested that the name "TASCIO" was that of a moneyer, but after much deliberation finally leaves it to the "curious to determine". Later, a coin of Cunobelinus was discovered with the reverse inscription "TASC.FIL." (Son of Tascio), bringing to mind the fact that Cunobelinus was the son of Tasciovanus, and he had so honored his father by placing his name upon coins. Thus it would seem that attempts to give the ancient British moneyer a spot-light in numismatics had again failed.

During the Roman occupation of England, from the first century A.D. to the early part of the fifth century, the native money was suppressed and that of the Romans put into circulation. In the third century mints were established and coins were issued of third bronze size. Although many of these pieces bearing the London mint mark, P.LON, or P.LN, have been discovered during the last century, I do not know of any that signify the name of a moneyer.

After the departure of the Romans, about 416 A.D. there is no evi-

dence of any new coinage being put into circulation and for over two hundred years the inhabitants continued to use that which had been left by the Romans.

It was following that period that the Heptarchy was formed. The country was divided into seven distinct Kingdoms, chief of which were Kent, Mercia, Wessex and Northumbria. Each had its own ruler and eventually a monetary system was established that was the beginning of the long series of English hammered silver pennies, weighing 24 grains, and which was England's only coin for about 500 years.

To Offa, King of Mercia, 757, is given the credit for having introduced this coinage, and it is from that period we begin to recognize the names of the moneyers and the issuing mints. There are upwards of fifty moneyers' names found on Offa's coins, but one name in particular, that of "EOBA" seems to be more prominent than others, for we find it not only on coins bearing the King's name, but on pennies struck for his wife, Cynethryth; in this instance the moneyer's name "EOBA" is on the obverse, while the name "CYNETHRYTH.REGINA.M" is on the reverse, where we would ordinarly find the name of the moneyer. Offa was no doubt imitating the imperial grandeur of Rome in authorizing an issue bearing the name of his wife.

The name of the moneyer Eoba is also found on the coins of Offa's successor, Coenwulf, 794, therefore, one arrives at the conclusion Eoba may have been a man of some standing, possibly the chief moneyer of the Kingdom; but further than this we can only conjecture. History has given us no record of him, only his coins are silent witnesses that he was a moneyer of 1300 years ago.

In the reign of Burgred of Mercia, 852, one observes a distinct change in the work of the moneyer; while the coins of his immediate predecessors show every indication of the pride of the moneyer in producing coins of uniform weight and size, with excellent die work, those of Burgred are just the opposite, they are miserable in design, of base metal and generally underweight. Debasing the money may not have been directly the fault of the moneyer, but he was responsible for the making of the die and stamping the coin. It is not unusual to find the letters of the legend inverted or reversed, often misplaced and in many cases in such disorder as to make the legend almost illegible.

It has been generally accepted that the early Anglo-Saxon moneyer was not only the head of the mint, but he was also the maker of the dies, and while he may have been appointed moneyer because of his integrity, his often limited skill as a die maker, left much to be desired even in those days of illiteracy. The task of making his dies was by no means an easy one, as with his crude tools, consisting of a number of small punches and gouges of various shapes and sizes he formed his designs and letters a stroke at a time, and if he had no knowledge of the phonetic value or the correct form of the character he was making on his die, it was not unusual for him to either add or omit several strokes or punches on the metal, thus producing a coin that has given the numismatic student many a weary hour attempting to unscramble the legend, which may be either in Saxon or in Runic lettering.

According to the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle of the early tenth century, the general run of the money contained as much as 20 per cent alloy, and was from three to eight grains underweight; it therefore became necessary to create laws penalizing

the moneyers for this false coining, and if convicted of the crime, the offending moneyer suffered the penalty of having his right hand cut off and the severed member hung over the door of his mint. In some instances the moneyer escaped this mutilation by a payment of a fine of from 80 to 100 pence. Considering the largeness of the fine and the economic value of the penny, this would indicate that the moneyer must have been a man of some substance and much above the standing of a common workman whose wages seldom exceed a penny a day.

There appears to have been very little system to the manner in which the Anglo-Saxon moneyer conducted his mint and it was not until the coming of the Norman, William the Conqueror in 1066 that the mints were placed under an apparently well regulated system.

Through references made in the Domesday Book of William I., and occasional notices in the Pipe Rolls of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries one gets some insight of the operations of the mints and the responsibilities of the Anglo-Norman moneyer. To every mint was attached an exchange (cambium) whose function was to purchase bullion for the mint and to issue coins from the mint to the public. As it was the only source through which the moneyer could circulate his coin, the exchange in the person of the warden (custos cambii) was a watch-dog set by the King over the moneyer; he checked the weight and standard of the coins and saw that they bore the true impression.

The moneyer now enjoyed certain privileges, he lived rent free and in principal cities was exempt from taxation. He no longer made his own dies, but received them from London for which he paid the King the sum of 20 shillings. This would lead us to believe that the office of moneyer was a position well worth having.

Despite the heavy penalties for false coining, the temptation for forgery was alluring. Dies were altered so as to deface the reverse legend and there are many instances on coins of that period showing attempts by a moneyer to change his name to that of another moneyer. In the year 1125, during the reign of Henry I, falsifying the coinage was so common that mass conviction was passed upon 94 moneyers who suffered the penalty of mutilation.

Again referring to the ancient Pipe Rolls of England, we find that the position of moneyer has upon rare occasions become hereditary in a particular mint. A moneyer of the Northampton mint was one named "Gosfridus" or Geoffrey and his name appears on pennies of Henry I. This moneyer was Geoffrey de Gunthrope and according to a passage in a document in possession of the Society of Antiquaries of England, which the late Dr. Horace Bond, in "Feudal England", dates about 1120, this Geoffrey was the son of one of the original Knights appointed by William I. in 1070, and until the year 1270 we find some one of that family connected with the Northampton mint.

The custom of stamping the name of the moneyer on British coins was discontinued during the reign of Edward I, and the last of the moneyer's names that has been discovered with any surety is that of Robert de Hadley or Haderlie. In the year of 1280 he was the moneyer for the Abbot's mint of St. Edmundsbury, now known as Bury St. Edmunds. After this period we find only the mint name of the city.

While some have sought to place the social position of the moneyer no higher than that of a common workman, others have with equal sincerity

raised him to the ranks of the nobility, but whatever social standing he may have enjoyed it seems to have fluctuated according to the conditions of the times. In Rome his office may have been a stepping stone to some higher political position, but in England he appears to have begun his life and ended it upon a coin. History has recorded him but briefly and probably his job was not as important as we like to believe, so perhaps we should follow the example of Ruding, who when undecided in a matter left it to the "curious to determine".

May we say in conclusion, that though the study of these ancient coins appears to be desert dry at times, they will become more so, literally and figuratively, if placed away in labelled envelopes and forgotten.

Lovers of puzzles, collectors who are tired of studying die breaks, or "G" men in embryo, might be interested in trying to unmask these early coiners whom we have called the mystery men of the coinage of Rome and England.

Club Notes

Ladies' Night

The ladies of the Chicago Coin Club walked away with the event of the year when they took over the October meeting as their annual privilege. Mrs. Helen Jackson, second vice president of the Club, was Chairman of the event and she is to be complimented on having given an enjoyable evening to the members.

Her list of co-workers were comprised of all the ladies of the Club who functioned most ably. Mrs. Rayson conducted the "What's my name" quiz, and the "True or False" contest was put over in great style by Mr. McBrien, who was pressed into service for the occasion. The evening was completed by the serving of coffee and home made cakes donated by the ladies; Mrs. Lamb presiding as official coffee pourer.

The Annual Banquet

The annual banquet of the Chicago Coin Club was held at the La Salle Hotel, November 15, and although the attendance did not quite reach the expectations of the committee, the affair was voted a tremendous success.

The banquet was in honor of the Past Presidents of the Club, five of whom are living, and four of whom were in attendance, viz. Alden S. Boyer, J. Henri Ripstra, William G. Rayson and Robert L. McBrien. It is to be regretted that Dr. Al. M. Rackus could not be present, owing to a previous engagement. Visiting guests were Dr. Judd of Omaha, President of the C.S.N.S., Mr. V. Leon Belt, a Member of the Board of the A.N.A. and President of the Iowa Numismatic Ass'n, Mr. Kenneth M. Bailey, President of the Sterling (Ill.) Coin Club, Mr. Jamieson of Sterling, Mr. Jamieson, Jr., and Dr. A. W. Prendergast of Terre Haute, Ind. Dr. Prendergast gave an interesting talk about his hobby of collecting cigar store Indians and enlightened us with stories of some Indian relics which had passed his way.

President Edmund E. Lamb and the Past Presidents gave interesting and amusing short talks full of reminiscences and it is quite possible they were only held in check by their respective wives, whom the banquet committee had thoughtfully seated by their sides.

The exhibits were up to the usual high standard of the Club. The evening closed with an auction of some sixty lots of coins, during which period the ladies occupied themselves with cards and bunco.

Harry Boosel as Chairman of the entertainment committee did an ex-

cellent job and made a splendid Toastmaster.

We have received word that Mr. and Mrs. George Brown have located in Pasadena, California, and we wish them all the happiness and joys of the coming holidays season.

Mr. C. Lou Snyder, a recently new member, generously donated an exhibit case to the Club. Mr. Norton F. Stone also donated a case.

Alden S. Boyer had on exhibit, a bicycle of the 1869 vintage. This relic of other days has a large five foot wheel in front, followed by a smaller one of 18 inches in diameter. The vehicle was known in some places as the "Kangaroo", but it has been called the "bone shaker".

Mr. Merril V. Sheldon's generous gift to the Club of a life membership in the A.N.A., is gratefully acknowledged by the Club members.

There was some discussion at the last meeting as to who designed the Illinois commemorative half dollar. It was designed by G. T. Morgan and J. R. Sinnock, both engravers at the Mint.

MINUTES FROM THE PAST

Twenty Years Ago—Dec. 7, 1921. The thirty-fourth meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was held at 940 N. Clark Street. Mr. Boyer presiding. There were 28 members and guests present. At the annual election of officers, the following members were elected to office. President, Alden S. Boyer; Vice President, A. M. Rackus; Sec.-Treas., R. E. Davis. A paper on general numismatics was read by Dr. Luttenberger. Louis Clement, Walter Strubinger and Charles Markus were elected to membership. There were 13 exhibits.

Fifteen Years Ago—Dec. 1, 1926. The 94th meeting of the Club was held at 2700 South Wabash Ave., Mr. Boyer presiding. The attendance was 26 members and visitors. Mr. Cederlund was elected to membership. At the annual election of officers, all incumbents were reelected. Mr. Sternberg gave a brief talk on the varieties of 1797 half-eagles. Exhibits were made by seven members.

Ten Years Ago—Dec. 2, 1931—The 154th meeting of the Club was held at the Atlantic Hotel, Mr. Davis presiding. There were 38 members and visitors present. The total attendance for the year was given as 420 members and 30 visitors. The elected officers for the year 1932, were: President R. E. Davis; Vice President, L. Josephson; Sec.-Treas. M. A. Powills. There were 8 exhibitors, Mr. Cederlund's exhibit being most outstanding.

FROM THE NEWS—

From Colorado comes the news that the old Cripple Creek is again bringing up gold. Some of you may remember that, at about the turn of the century, the district was pouring out twenty millions of gold a year.

From the New York Herald Tribune—Among the recent issues of paper money on display at the Chase National Bank is a one cent note issued in Hong Kong. The note measures 1 5/8 by 2 7/8 inches and has an exchange value of ¼ cent in United States currency. It was issued as a substitute for copper one-cent pieces which have disappeared from circulation during the war emergency.

The Des Moines Tribune says—Perhaps the heavy demand for small change may be due to just ordinary tax payers storing up coins so they will have something to count after paying the new taxes.

Sea Gives Up A Fortune

London, England, Nov. 2.—Along a stretch of Norfolk coast, the people were literally rolling in money — Chinese money. Thousands of Chinese yuan notes issued by the Farmer's Bank of China, and engraved with pictures of sheep or cows were washed ashore during the night. It is thought that the notes may have been printed in England and had been started to China aboard a ship later torpedoed.

An A.P. news item from Cairo, Egypt, says the Government arrested several speculators, chiefly small-time money changers, as a shortage of change continued to impede business. A new decree provided a jail term as a penalty for buying or selling coins at other than their face value, but merchants still found it necessary to pay premiums of up to ten per cent to get change.

One hundred and eighty-five tons of coins is a lot of money at any time, but that was the weight of forty-two million coins brought to Chicago and received by the Federal Reserve Bank, from the San Francisco mint. It took thirty bank employes seven and one-half hours to store the 6,200 sacks of money in the vaults. The money which amounts to $3,200,000 in half dollars, quarters, dimes, nickels and pennies, will be released into trade channels in the next few weeks to meet the need for change during the Christmas shopping rush.

A Cure for declining exhibits?

During the last ten years the average attendance at meetings of the Chicago Coin Club has just about doubled in number. However, we often do not have as many members exhibiting a present meetings as we did when only 25 to 35 persons attended.

Back in those days the Club did not own a single case—the coins were placed on a table unprotected. Now we have ample cases for displaying numismatic items.

One of the reasons advanced for the decline in exhibits has been the fact that some members would exhibit if they were not called upon to give a talk on their display. If that be true, the remedy is simple—merely place the cases in two groups; one for those who will make a few remarks when called upon, and one group of cases for those exhibits that "speak for themselves".

Another member has advanced the idea of giving a small prize every night for the best exhibit. This would hardly be practical, as there has been no precedent set for judging coin displays. Still another suggestion is to give a prize, but make it by drawing and only those members who exhibit be eligible to participate in the drawing. It should not be necessary to coax members or offer prize inducements in order to bring out exhibits, but remember the fine material displayed the night Mr. McBrien gave the quarter eagle as an exhibit prize?

—L. F. H.

The Editor's Note

This being the last issue of the "Bulletin" for the year 1941, the Editor wishes to thank those who have so kindly contributed articles and news items, and we confess that without them we would have often been hard pressed for copy. We have enjoyed editing the little magazine, but feel that a change of editors with some new ideas will be beneficial for the coming year. Thanking you again we wish you the joys of the coming holiday season.

—W. G. R.